three to a party in a suit and time bound procedure at certain stages of the case. The relevant provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1999, are awaiting Government notification. Steps have also been taken to improve the service conditions of Judges/Judicial officers by the Central Government and the State Governments.

Setting up of Fast Track Courts

432. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to set up fast track courts to clear the backlog of cases in various High Courts and Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the other measures proposed to be taken for the disposal of the pending cases within a fixed time; and

(d) what are the details of the cases pending in each of the High Courts and Supreme Court as on 31st December, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Supreme Court has taken a number of measures to reduce the pendency such as more practical categorisation and grouping of cases, to take up for hearing all the case listed for the particular day as far as possible, non-accumulation of defective matters, reservation of more and sufficient time slot for old pending cases in chronological order and streamlining of administration and man-power of the registry through computer network. As a result, the pendency of cases in Supreme Court has come down from 1,04,936 cases in 1991 to 21,657 cases as on 2-11-2000.

All the High Courts have been requested to follow the steps taken by Supreme Court for bringing down the pendency. The High Courts have favourably responded. Efforts are being made with the help of the Chief Justice of India and the Chief Justice of the High Courts to fill up all vacant posts of

judges in the High Courts to expedite disposal of pending cases.

(d) As per the available information, the pendency of cases in the Supreme Court and High Courts is given in the Statement.

Statement

	Number of cases pending	As on
I. Supreme Court of India	21,657	2.11.2000

II. No. of Cases pending in High Courts as on the date mentioned against respective High Courts

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	No. of Cases pending	As on
1.	Allahabad	818796	3/2000
2.	Andhra Pradesh	155351	6/2000
3.	Bombay	289800	3/2000
4.	Calcutta	313172	6/2000
5.	Delhi	178186	12/1999
6.	Gauhati	38702	3/1999
7.	Gujarat	141498	3/2000
8.	Himachal Pradesh	13420	6/2000
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	64036	6/2000
10.	Karnataka	89768	6/2000
11.	Kerala	323730	6/2000
12.	Madhya Pradesh	114057	6/2000
13.	Madras	353568	3/2000
14.	Orissa	119574	3/2000
15.	Patna	85193	6/2000
16.	Punjab & Haryana	211063	6/2000
17.	Rajasthan	123262	3/2000
18.	Sikkim	209	6/2000
		34,33,385	